

Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour



RTLB Matters: Issue 6 2012

7 May 2012

Review of residential special schools

The Ministry met with principals and board representatives on Friday to talk to them about the review and the further development of the intensive/wrap around service for learners with severe and complex needs.

We need to be thoughtful and sensitive to the uncertainty this review has for those working in and associated with residential schools and the families/whanau receiving support through the residential special schools. As with all change there is a focus on what might be lost as there is a reliance on the relative certainty of what has been and currently is available against the relative uncertainty of what we are moving towards.

At the centre of these changes are better services for children and young people and their families/whanau.

It is important that we do not pre-judge or suppose what the outcome will be for the residential special school network as we work through the consultation process. In the end this is the Minister's decision and there will be no final decision until the two rounds of consultation and feedback have been completed.

Referrals to residential schools

- Referrals can still proceed but decisions on enrolment at the schools will need to take account of the following:
- We cannot make a commitment to enrolment beyond the end of Term Four this year given the announcement of the review on Friday
- There needs to be sharpened thinking on the comparative benefits of "residential" v. "wrap around" given the review
- We need to be sure that there is careful continued focus on the criteria for enrolment, i.e:
 - Those students with significant and complex social, behavioural learning needs and with an associated intellectual impairment (for Halswell and Salisbury),
 - and where those needs are impacting significantly across the contexts of home, school and community
 - and where there has been good evidence that all local expertise, services and effort have been expended.

Attached to my covering email is a copy of the discussion document for phase one of the consultation.

Leadership payments

Leadership payments should now be showing up on schools' staffing notices. This will show as a sum of payments that the cluster is entitled to – it is not linked to any named RTLB on the notice. That will show via your SUE report.

The specific allocation of leadership payments is all done through your pay-centre – if you have sent in your ESP1/2 to your pay-centre and the leadership payments are still not correct, contact your pay-centre directly. If that fails, email Lara Penman on lara.penman@minedu.govt.nz and she will work with Ministry Payroll to address the situation.

Protected units from 2011

When protected units have not transferred over from last year, email Lara Penman on lara.penman@minedu.govt.nz and she will work with Ministry Payroll directly.

Banked staffing

The Ministry (Payroll) has finished working through the banked staffing for those 13 schools that had problems at the beginning of 2012. Two schools did not have any change as a result of the banked staffing delay. For the other 11, the Ministry called and wrote to them to give them the option of adjusting their staffing this year, or rolling it over to next year. I understand about half opted to roll over to next year.

Restorative practices

Many RTLB have been helping schools with restorative practices. The Ministry is developing a restorative practice model as part of PB4L. It has documented the evidence base for restorative work and drafted a practice model. The Ministry hopes to build a well organised approach to support schools develop effective RP work. This model is initially for intermediate, area and secondary schools.

An online forum has been set up about the RP work under way within PB4L. Click on the link to read about the evidence base for RP, and to look at the draft practice model:

<http://www.vln.school.nz/pg/groups/622607/pb4l-restorative-practice-forum/>

Feedback is welcomed from interested RTLB and cluster managers about:

- The evidence base and draft practice model;
- How it might best link with RTLB work;
- Tools or practices which might enhance the model.

This feedback can be posted on the forum's blog. Here's how:

1. Click the link above
2. Go to the top right hand corner of the webpage. Click "log in".
3. Click "register" on the right hand side of the page. Enter your name, e mail address and a password. It takes about one minute to sign up.
4. They send you an e mail to "validate" your account.

You can then log in, edit your profile, and contribute to the forum. (Just enter "RP forum" into the search box.) You can click "subscribe to feed" on the left hand side to keep track of what others have to say about this work.

For any further information please contact Mark Corrigan, Senior Adviser on mark.corrigan@minedu.govt.nz
Phone: 06 349 6305

Gateway Assessments

As you may know we have been rolling out RTLB involvement in the Gateway Assessment process for children entering care. As Cluster Managers, you will receive the referrals from the CYF Social Worker, and this referral must be allocated to an RTLB as a priority.

RTLB need to be trained and ready to be involved in Gateway by **June 1st**. This means that from June 1st, CYF will be sending Gateway referrals through to cluster managers. CYF have not rolled out Gateway to some areas of the country yet, so those in these areas will have a bit more time to prepare.

1. **RTLB Gateway Guide** (attached to my covering email) – this should give you the information you and your RTLB need to do this work. Note the flow chart on page 19 for an overview of the roles and relationships for RTLB in the Gateway Assessment process. Your Gateway trainers will talk to you about how to distribute this to your RTLB.

2. **RTL B Gateway trainers.** The 12 RTL B Gateway trainers are listed below. If you have not organised a training session with your Gateway trainer yet, please contact them to set up a time. You may also like to invite the local CYF Gateway representative to your sessions to help to build up strong working relationships with CYF.

Name	Email	Training to be implemented in the following clusters
Fiona Harkness	fiona.harkness@rtlb.school.nz	1, 2
Sonya Lamb	sonyalamb@kit.ac.nz	3, 4, 5, 6
Belinda Kusabs	belindakrtlb@gmail.com	7, 8, 9
Clare Williams	c_williams@pukekoheint.school.nz	10, 11, 12, 13
Graeme Nobilo	graeme@fairfieldprimary.school.nz	14, 15, 16, 17
Gina Geros	gina.geros@tongariro.school.nz	18, 19, 20
Jan Morrison	jmorrisonrtlb@gmail.com	21, 22, 23
Liz Hickey	rtlbiz@inspire.net.nz	24, 25, 26
Jackie West	jw@tawkkm.school.nz	27, 28, 29
Carolyn White	carolyn@broadgreen.school.nz	30, 31, 32
Peggy Waite	darfieldrtlb@gmail.com	33, 34, 35, 36, 37
Jenny Smith	jennysmith@woosh.co.nz	38, 39, 40

CYF are holding training sessions for their Social Workers when Gateway is rolled out in that area. They are happy for cluster managers and RTL B to attend this training. This is CYF specific training aimed at their social workers, so if you attend please respect the interagency work that has gone in to developing the protocols and processes. This CYP specific training is different from the RTL B specific training that your RTL B Gateway trainers will roll out. Contact your local CYF office to find out more. The next areas in which Gateway will be rolled out are:

- Northland DHB - week starting 28/5
- Hutt Valley DHB - week starting 11/6
- South Canterbury DHB - week starting 11/6
- Canterbury DHB - week starting 18/6

For further information contact Lara Penman, Advisor Service Delivery

lara.penman@minedu.govt.nz

Phone 04 463 8182.

And finally

We are looking forward to spending a day with the Cluster Managers at forums in Wellington (tomorrow, Tuesday 8 May) and Auckland (Thursday 10 May).

Hei konā rā

Anne

Anne Tuffin

Project Manager RTL B

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